



# Zion

*Vistas and Visions*

SEEKING PUBLIC INPUT FOR THE FUTURE OF ZION NATIONAL PARK • Zion Newsletter #6 • December 1998

It is time to update you on the status of the *Visitor Management and Resource Protection Plan/Environmental Impact Statement* for Zion National Park. Since our last newsletter (June 1998), we have eliminated alternative E (minimal changes to park conditions as they were in 1997). We dropped this alternative because it was very similar to our proposed action alternative. We now have four alternatives for managing Zion National Park — a “no action” alternative, and three action alternatives:

- the National Park Service’s proposed action alternative
- alternative A, which provides additional opportunities for use and access
- alternative B, which emphasizes resource protection

We also have continued to revise the alternatives, changing how the zones would be applied to specific areas of the park and what those zones mean in terms of needed and allowable actions. Work continues on preparing the environmental impact statement for the plan which will describe the alternatives and their environmental consequences. The draft plan/EIS will be published next summer. Following its distribution, we will hold a series of public meetings to discuss the alternatives and listen to your viewpoints. At this time, we expect to hold meetings in Salt Lake City, Springdale, St. George, and Kanab. We will notify you of the specific meeting dates and locations when they have been finalized. We appreciate the support and input we have received to this point. Once the draft plan/EIS is released for review we welcome your additional comments. We will be particularly interested in comments that address one or more of the following: (1) concerns about the adequacy or accuracy of the analysis; (2) new information that would have a bearing on the analysis; or (3) items needing clarification.

## REQUEST FOR THE PLAN

In our efforts to lower costs and reduce the amount of paper used in printing the draft plan/EIS, you will have two options for review. The quickest and easiest way to review the document will be to access it through our homepage on the world wide web. All of the information in the printed document will be on the web in digital and downloadable format. When the plan/EIS is released for review, there will be a link from our main homepage so that you can easily access the document. Our web address is: <http://www.nps.gov/planning/current.htm>. We also plan to print copies if you prefer to receive the draft plan/EIS as a paper document for review. **To receive a printed copy, we ask that you mail back the enclosed postcard.** If you will be viewing the document on the web, you need not mail the card back. **Cards must be received by February 15, 1999**, in order to produce the correct amount of each type of document.